



WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26

8:15-9:00 Coffee & Welcome

CENTENNIAL BALLROOM

Guy Gregory, Spokane River Forum Board

9:00-9:35 Plenary Session

CENTENNIAL BALLROOM

The Clean Water Act 50th Anniversary: National & Local Perspectives

Gayle Killam, Water Policy Pathways

9:35-10:15 Panel Discussion

CENTENNIAL BALLROOM

Caj Matheson, Coeur d'Alene Tribe; Jerry White, Spokane Riverkeeper; Rick Romero, Expo +50; Bruce Howard, Avista Utilities; Allyson Beall King, WA State University; Bilay Adams, Liberty Lake Sewer and Water District

10:15-10:30 Break

10:30-12:00 Concurrent Sessions

ROOM 302B

Evaluating, Understanding & Improving Our Waters, The Spokane River Basin

Annie Simpson, WA Department of Ecology, Cathrene Glick, Tanya Williams and Annie Simpson, WA Department of Ecology

Learn about water quality issues in the Spokane River Basin, and preliminary findings from the Spokane River Dissolved Oxygen Total Daily Maximum Load (TMDL) 10-Year Effectiveness Monitoring Assessment. Also, learn about 6PPD-quinone, its impacts to water quality, the cause, and Ecology's response to this contaminant of emerging concern. Lastly, we'll discuss a summary of the efforts of the Spokane River Regional Toxics Task Force and plans for the group moving forward.

ROOM 302A

Groundwater Supply Planning & Spokane Area Investigations of the SVRP Aquifer

Nathan Sulya, City of Spokane; Dan Kegley and John Porcello, GSI Water Solutions; Colin Naake, City of Spokane; Jeremy Jenkins, Spokane Aquifer Joint Board; Anne Lynch and Gemma Dunn, GHD

Learn about projects under way by the Spokane Aquifer Joint Board and the City of Spokane to ensure that water quality and quantity are secure for future generations. This session includes projects that investigate: (1) risk of aggregate quarry mining and underground transmission of fuel that may pose a risk to water supply; (2) studies to evaluate City wells and services to assess future demand; and (3) planning efforts to meet water system demands over the next 20 years and create a sustainable, resilient, and affordable future that the community endorses.

ROOM 303A

Supporting Recreational and Native Fisheries from Stateline to Long Lake Dam

Casey Flanagan, Spokane Tribe of Indians; Chuck Lee, WA Department of Fish and Wildlife; Chris Moan, Avista Utilities; Casey Flanagan, Spokane Tribe of Indians

The Spokane River is very dynamic, with each reach or section providing its own unique challenges for fisheries management. Presenters will discuss their current projects within what's commonly called the "upper reach," "lower reach," and Lake Spokane. Each has different recreational and native fishery needs and opportunities. Presenters will focus on efforts to control invasive species, monitor abundance, support native redband trout, and provide angler opportunities.

12:00-12:45 Lunch

CENTENNIAL BALLROOM

12:45-1:30 Plenary Session

CENTENNIAL BALLROOM

Returning Salmon to the Spokane River

Andy Dunau, Spokane River Forum; Caj Matheson and Tom Biladeau, Coeur d'Alene Tribe; Conor Giorgi, Spokane Tribe of Indians

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26 (CONTINUED)

1:30-1:45

Break

1:45-3:15

Concurrent Sessions

ROOM 302A

Preparing for Salmon Homecoming

Steve Pozzanghera, WA Department of Fish and Wildlife; Caj Matheson and Tom Biladeau, Coeur d'Alene Tribe; Conor Giorgi and Rick Raymondi, Spokane Tribe of Indians; Jack Nisbet, Historian

A multi-pronged approach operating on parallel paths is being used by area tribes and partners to pursue the return of salmon to the Spokane River Watershed. Learn about the outmigration study being conducted, rearing strategies, limiting factors analysis, habitat restoration strategy, and the role of cultural releases and outreach.

ROOM 302B

Spokane River PCB TMDL Development and Related Efforts

Lisa Dally Wilson, Dally Environmental; Brian Nickel, EPA; Doug Krapas, Inland Empire Paper; Lisa Dally Wilson, Dally Environmental, Brandee Era-Miller, WA Department of Ecology

EPA is developing PCB Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) to address PCB contamination in the Spokane and Little Spokane Rivers. EPA will present on progress to date, next steps, and invite dialog on challenges and opportunities. Presentations will follow summarizing 10 years of PCB field work in the Spokane watershed by the SRRTTF and Department of Ecology, and efforts to petition EPA to reform TSCA, the federal act that addresses the production, importation, use, and disposal of specific chemicals, including PCBs.

ROOM 303A

Water Conservation in Action

Tonilee Hanson, Spokane River Forum and Spokane Aquifer Joint Board; Kristen Zimmer, City of Spokane; Iris Mayes, University of Idaho Extension; Tonilee Hanson, Spokane River Forum

Outdoor watering season has started, and conservation initiatives are springing into action. Learn about the City of Spokane's Water Conservation Master Plan and the demand side implementation strategies that have collectively saved over 186 million gallons in 3 years. Find out how the University of Idaho Extension is promoting the use of drought tolerant and native plants. Explore the regional resources for leak detection, sprinkler systems, and landscapes at the Outdoor Watering Nerds website.

3:15-3:30

Break

3:30-5:00

Concurrent Sessions

ROOM 302A

Addressing "Forever" Chemicals: PFAS in Drinking Water

Allyson Beall King, Washington State University; Claire Nitsche and Barbara Morrissey, WA Department of Health; Jon Welge and Heather Gosack, Tetra-Tech; John Hancock, West Plains Water Coalition

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a large family of "forever" chemicals associated with a wide range of health concerns. PFAS chemicals are increasingly found in drinking water across the country. Washington State Department of Health will provide background and next steps for their inter-agency response to PFAS in drinking water. Local presentations will review findings, risks, and community action regarding PFAS affecting West Plains wells and groundwater.

ROOM 302B

Aerial Imagery and Remotely Sensed Data to Support Watershed Monitoring and Restoration

Levi Keesecker, Washington State Conservation Commission; Jacob Taylor, Spokane Conservation District, Matt Stevenson, CORE GIS; Levi Keesecker, Washington State Conservation Commission; Abby Gleason, WA Department of Natural Resources

Join the pros to learn how Landsat, NAIP, LIDAR and other remote sensing tools are being developed to monitor changes in the quantity and quality of critical areas over time, model and prioritize efforts at the watershed scale, and support long-term planning. Additionally, WA Department of Natural Resources will share timing for release of new comprehensive LIDAR datasets and plans for future collaborative development.

ROOM 303A

Habitat Restoration and Land Conservancy

Seth Flanders, Washington State University; Kat Hall, The Lands Council, Mike Crabtree, Inland Northwest Lands Conservancy; Kristin Lowell, ID Department of Environmental Quality

Three highly innovative habitat restoration and lands conservancy efforts are energized by partnerships. They include installation and monitoring of Beaver Dam Analogs to achieve riparian ecosystem benefits such as aquifer storage, wetlands, and water quality improvement; Wolf Lodge Creek, ID watershed scale restoration initiative that addresses stream restoration, aquatic habitat improvement, supporting healthy resilient forests, and more; and successful efforts in the Little Spokane to acquire and preserve property to benefit fish, wildlife and sustainable recreation.

THURSDAY, APRIL 27

8:15-9:05 Coffee & Welcome

CENTENNIAL BALLROOM

Mayor Nadine Woodward, City of Spokane

9:05-10:00 Plenary Session

CENTENNIAL BALLROOM

Stewardship Works: The Power of Individuals, Ty Wick Award, Student Vision, Your Opinion Counts

Andy Dunau, Spokane River Forum; Greg Gordon, Abby Dodd and Christiana Schmer, Gonzaga University; Jeremy Jenkins, Spokane Aquifer Joint Board; Allyson Beall King, WA State University

10:00-10:15 Break

10:15-11:45 Concurrent Sessions

ROOM 302B

Innovative Stormwater Management

Ben Brattebo, Spokane County; Trey George, City of Spokane; Chris Bosley, City of Coeur d'Alene; Lindsay Chutas, Morrison-Maierle

Three projects are located in urban and rural settings. Join us as we share innovations and partnerships being employed to minimize pollutant loading into our lakes and rivers. Piping, infiltration basins, natural bioretention, combined sewer overflow tanks, swales and drywells, small advanced wastewater treatment systems, and outreach and education are all part of the story. Successful innovation is key to meeting both clean water regulations and community development.

ROOM 303A

Citizen Science Initiatives in the Spokane River Basin

Jim Ekins, University of Idaho; Jule Schultz, Spokane Riverkeeper; Jan Boll, Washington State University; Sharon Bosley, University of Idaho; Janice Elvidge, The River Mile

We will discuss a variety of citizen science programs in the Spokane River watershed during this expert panel. Moderated by Jim Ekins, Ph.D., from U-Idaho Extension Water Outreach, experts will describe unique partnerships among scientists and community members that contribute to research and a better understanding of the world around us. We will leave lots of time for Q&A and robust discussion!

ROOM 302A

Riparian and Habitat Restoration, A Walk Down Hangman Creek

Mitch Redfern, WA Department of Ecology; Walt Edelen, Jacob Taylor and Dan Ross, Spokane Conservation District; Bruce Kinkead, Coeur d'Alene Tribe; Cary Janson, Farmer

Hangman Creek is a major tributary of the Spokane River that originates in the mountains of Idaho, crosses the Coeur d'Alene reservation and flows to its confluence with the Spokane River. Learn how incentive-based measures are achieving riparian restoration, installation of buffers, reconnected flood plains, alternative ag practices and more to improve stream, water quality, fishery and other conditions.

11:45-12:45 Lunch

CENTENNIAL BALLROOM

Rob Lindsay, Spokane County

12:45-12:55 Plenary Session

CENTENNIAL BALLROOM

2023 Water Forecast

Pat Maher, Avista Utilities

12:55-1:55 Plenary Session

CENTENNIAL BALLROOM

Taking Action: Building Climate Change Resiliency Across Our Communities

Laura Laumatia, Coeur d'Alene Tribe; Eric Walsh, Manomet; Ty Meyer, Spokane Conservation District; John Porcello, GSI Water Solutions; Megan Lunney, Avista Utilities; Brian Henning, Gonzaga University

2:00 Concurrent Sessions

Special Interest Group Meetings

ROOM 302A

Ruckelshaus Situation Assessment for Spokane River Toxics Advisory Group

ROOM 302B

Spokane River Watershed Salmon Lead Entity Technical Team



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